

Lobelia cardinalis

Cardinal Flower



Brilliant red flowers light up the greens of summer. Pollinated by hummingbirds. A natural for the damp portion of a garden, but can adjust to a wide range of soil and moisture conditions. Does best in a lightly shaded setting. Tolerates occasional flooding. This perennial can be used as an accent plant or in larger groupings. Attractive to hummingbirds. The juice of the plant is poisonous.

Suggested Companions: wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*), ostrich fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*), moonseed (*Menispermum canadense*), ironwood (*Carpinus caroliniana*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Photo Credit: Wisconsin State Herbarium,
by Emmet J. Judziewicz

Plant Type: Wildflower

Size: 2-4' H
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Water Tolerant: Somewhat

Soil: Average Garden Soil
Rich Moist
Very Damp/Wet

Flower Color:
Red

Bloom Time:
July
August
September

Other Attributes:
Butterfly attracting
Bird attracting

Habitat:

Forested Wetland
Swamp/ Bog
Streamside
Forested Wetland
Swamp/ Bog
Streamside

Exposure: sun
 filtered
 shade

Plant in:

Groundcover: No